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# College Board To Meet Thursday On Dr. Silver

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
State College Board meets in closed session Thursday to hash over possible action against a controversial Ole Miss history professor who has been critical of the state.

The Board of Institutions of Higher Learning will consider the future of Dr. James Silver, a former head of the University of Mississippi history department. He dubbed Mississippi a "closed society" and drew in return a volley of criticism.

## REP. MATHIS

Meanwhile, Rep. Jim Mathis of Leake County introduced a resolution in the state House of Representatives Wednesday calling on the college board to investigate any "employees whose public utterances, speeches, writings or other contumacious conduct or activity may be in violation of . . . the constitution of the state in regard to contumacious conduct or to other standards of ethical conduct or engaging in activity contrary to the best interest of the institutions or conduct disloyal to his employers, or conduct injurious to the high academic standards. . ."

The resolution said the board had the authority to fire any employee for malfeasance, inefficiency or contumacious conduct.

It said the legislature and citizens believe certain employees of the board were guilty of disloyal conduct and tending to incite violation of the state laws.

No names were cited.

## ATTACKS TARGET

Dr. Silver, who has taught at Ole Miss for the past 28 years, has been the target of attacks of several legislators for his stand and views on racial policies of the state.

Dr. Silver, as outgoing president of the southern historical society, said in a speech at Asheville, N. C. that Mississippi was "a closed society." He said the state was trying to exist as it had before the war between the states.

## INVESTIGATED

The educator has been under investigation by a sub-committee of the college board. The board was reported looking for grounds to oust Dr. Silver without running the risk of jeopardizing accreditation.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools put Ole Miss on probation because of conduct of the State College Board during attempts to enroll

Negro James Meredith into the University. The probation was lifted this past fall.

Rep. Malcolm Mabry of Coahoma County, a former student of Silver's, called for the professor's ouster in a speech to the legislature last month.

"I for one, as a legislator, as an alumnus of Ole Miss and as a Mississippian, am ready to join in any move—short of violence—to oust him."

Dr. Silver has been under fire for several years but the tempo has increased since last fall.